

ILLEGAL

4 u 2 txt
& drive!



Dear Friend:

Every year, motorists travel a combined 96,583,882,000 miles on Michigan roadways.

That's a lot of drivers and vehicles sharing the pavement! So it's important to drive safely.

Any number of distractions can take our eyes, hands or attention off the road - like talking on the phone, eating or changing the radio station. Text messaging is by far the riskiest.

To help keep our roadways safer, new laws prohibit reading, writing or sending text messages while driving. As a primary offense, you can be pulled over and ticketed for this alone. Violators face a fine of \$100 for a first offense and \$200 for any subsequent offenses.

If you are one of the estimated 82 million people who text regularly, please don't text behind the wheel!

Let's all drive like our family is in the next car and keep our eyes on the road.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Pappageorge".

STATE SENATOR

**John
Pappageorge**

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Check out more facts on the back



As of July 1, 2010 it is illegal to write, read or send text messages while driving in Michigan.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Texting while behind the wheel has been called more dangerous than drinking and driving.** *(Car and Driver magazine)*
- **It's estimated more than 28 percent of all traffic crashes are caused by drivers using cell phones and texting. That's at least 1.6 million accidents each year!** *(National Safety Council)*
- **In 2008, nearly 6,000 people lost their lives and half a million were injured in crashes due to distracted driving habits, such as texting.** *(National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)*
- **Nearly 50 percent of texting adults admit to texting while driving.** *(Pew Internet and American Life Project)*
- **Young, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old make up the highest proportion of distracted drivers involved in fatal crashes.** *(Fatality Analysis Reporting System)*
- **Michigan joins 27 other states in banning behind-the-wheel texting via cell phones, laptops or other communication devices.**

STATE SENATOR

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